

Amendment to Claims

This listing of Claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in this Application.

Listing of Claims

Claim 1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method for downloading to a client device, and therein auto-configuring, an imaging device driver which, along with relevant configuration information, is embedded in within the imaging device's included firmware per se, said method comprising

establishing between the client device and the imaging device an operative connection, including a bi-directional, imaging-device communication port which is (a) compatible with both devices, and (b) the port via which imaging-job information will be exchanged between the devices[.],

in relation to said establishing, and utilizing the mentioned port, effecting a companion delivery download therethrough from the imaging device to the client device of both the imaging driver and the relevant configuration information, and

in association with said effecting and resulting delivery, auto-configuring in the client device the delivered imaging driver utilizing the delivered configuration information.

Claim 2. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 1, wherein said effecting includes issuing from the client device to the imaging device a request though the communication port for the delivery of the driver and the configuration information.

Claim 3. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 2, wherein the communication port employed is RAW port 9100.

Claim 4. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 2, wherein the communication port employed is IEEE 1284 ECP parallel port.

Claim 5. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 2 which is employed with a client device which possesses an add-device process, and which further comprises integrally linking the process of requesting, downloading and auto-configuring with such process.

Claim 6. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 5, wherein the communication port employed is RAW port 9100.

Claim 7. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 5, wherein the communication port employed is IEEE 1284 ECP parallel port.

Claim 8. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) In a setting which includes an operatively and communicatively interconnected client device and imaging device, wherein the imaging device's firmware per se possesses an embedded imaging driver and related configuration information, and the imaging device is not yet installed on the client device, a method comprising identifying, and preparing for use, a bi-directional communication port via which

imaging-job information may be exchanged between the two devices, and

using this port, sending from the imaging device to the client device the embedded imaging driver along with the related configuration information, and

following said sending, and in the client device, auto-configuring the sent driver with the sent configuration information.

Claim 9. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 8, wherein the client device possesses, and includes the capability to implement, an add-device process, and said sending and auto-configuring steps are effectively integrated with implementation of that process.

Claim 10. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 8, wherein said sending is preceded, and triggered, by a request process which is initiated from the client device and communicated to the imaging device through the communication port.

Claim 11. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 8, wherein the port which is identified and prepared is RAW port 9100.

Claim 12. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 8, wherein the port which is identified and prepared is IEEE 1284 ECP parallel port.

Claim 13. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) Embedded-driver downloading and

configuring structure comprising

an imaging device possessing within its firmware per se an embedded driver and related configuration information,

a client device having the capability for operative installation of said imaging device,

a communication port defining a shareable, compatible via for the exchange of imaging-job information between said devices, and

appropriately inter-associated request, response and auto-configuring structure distributively present in said client and imaging devices, operatively connected to said port, and operable, collaboratively, to effect a chain of events including

(a) a request from said client device to said imaging device for the download of embedded driver and configuration information,

(b) a responsive download from said imaging device to said client device, and

(c) an auto configuring of the downloaded driver in said client device utilizing the downloaded configuration information.

Claim 14. (ORIGINAL) The downloading and configuring structure of claim 13, wherein said communication port is RAW port 9100.

Claim 15. (ORIGINAL) The downloading and configuring structure of claim 13, wherein said communication port is IEEE 1284 ECP parallel port

Claim 16. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A communication-associated process involving (a) a client device, and (b) an imaging device which includes an embedded driver within its firmware per se, and related configuration information, said process comprising

communicatively associating the two devices, and

thereafter, and employing the embedded driver and related configuration information, equipping the client device with a fully configured installation of the driver.

Claim 17. (ORIGINAL) The process of claim 16, wherein said equipping involves communicating the embedded driver and related configuration information directly from the imaging device to the client device via a selected imaging port through which imaging-job information will be exchanged between the two devices during the shared implementation of an imaging job.